



PROCESS FOR RECOVERING PROPYLENE OXIDE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a process comprising the steps of oxidizing ethylbenzene in a liquid phase with molecular oxygen to obtain a reaction liquid containing ethylbenzene hydroperoxide, then distilling the reaction liquid to obtain a concentrated solution of ethylbenzene hydroperoxide, further mixing and reacting the concentrated solution with propylene to obtain a mixed solution containing propylene oxide, and distilling the mixed solution to separate and recover propylene oxide, the improvement in recovering propylene oxide wherein at least one compound selected from the group consisting of aliphatic saturated alcohols having 2-4 carbon atoms, allyl alcohol, saturated aliphatic hydrocarbons having 6 or 7 carbon atoms, benzene, ethers, ketones, nitriles, amines, pyridines, diamines and aminoalcohols is added to the mixed solution in an amount of 0.01-100 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of propylene oxide in the mixed solution.

According to the present invention, propylene oxide can be efficiently recovered with suppressed side reactions and reduced loss of propylene oxide.